

low," says Doctor Johnson. "He fairly puts
 yours." Roosevelt might have said the same
 of Trevelyan.
 put his mind to the other's, and the result
 was a
 correspondence of rare interest and value.
 Trevelyan him-
 self said of it in a letter to me under date of
 April 23, 1919,
 granting me permission to quote from Ms
 letters:
¹¹ My vocation was only to return the "balls
 struck over
 the net by the hand of a master! I
 deliberately think that
 letters of that class were never written.
 Take for
 that one shortly before his Presidential
 contest,
 lie says that he would rather be a real
 President for
 years and a half than a figurehead for seven
 years and
 a What wisdom is in this letter, and what
 courage!
 If is a finer and truer description of a
 statesman's
 in the world, I do not know *it*."

The referred to was in a letter which
 Roosevelt
 to Trevelyan on May 28, 1904, from which I
 shall
 presently: "I certainly would not be willing
 to the Presidency at the cost of failing
 to do the things
 the real reason why I care to hold it at all.
 I rather be a real President for three
 years and
 a a figurehead for seven years and a
 half. I
 I can truthfully say that I now have to my
 credit
 a of substantial achievement—and the
 rest must take
of itself."

correspondence began while Roosevelt
 was Governor **of** New York, and I am much indebted to
 Sir George
 for an of its beginning and the original of

the first

Roosevelt wrote to him. He had
sent to the
a copy of the first part of 'The
American Bevo-
and on January 16, 1899, Roosevelt
wrote:

My Sir *Gearge*:

[^]*I* Just received a copy of 'The American
Revolu-
for pray accept my sincere thanks. I
am
n0w, but as I have never failed hitherto to
read